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a very extensive dealer in linen; he said that he saw the linen in this new loom; that the quality of it, particularly the selvage, which he closely examined, appeared to him to be very good; he observed the two webs in the loom at the same time, and is convinced that linen could be wove much faster by it than by a common loom; says that this loom was in a loft, which is too dry a place to work a loom with advantage, and that he is of opinion it bids fair to be of great utility to the linen trade.

Mr. James Ferguson, another very extensive dealer in linens, informed them that he saw this loom, and that it appeared to him to be simple and plain in the construction; the two webs were in it, and beamed on the same beam, and it appeared to him to be an invention of great and general advantage; he observed that he never saw a loom but this in a loft, and till he saw it he thought it was not practicable to work one in such a situation, and that it was certainly wrought there to great disadvantage.

Both these gentlemen were of opinion that the universal use of this loom would work up all the yarn at present spun in this country, a vast quantity of which is now exported, and that their linens would rate much lower, which would enable them to contend with other markets much better than they can at present.

Your committee then called upon the Rev. Dr. Young, a Senior Fellow of Trinity College, and Professor of Natural Philosophy, who said that he has examined the mechanical principles of this loom, and that it is evidently capable of working two webs at the same time; that the operation in weaving each web is more simple than in the common loom, and consequently more than double the quantity of linen can be wrought in the same time, and with less fatigue to the weaver; that the selvage must, from the nature of the machinery, be more exact than that of webs wove in the common loom; that the force with which the web is shot can be adapted to the nature of the thread in the most simple manner; that the new part of the machinery is extremely simple and not subject to go out of

repair, and from the nature of it must cost little; and from inspection it is evident the expense of this loom must be less than the expense of two common looms; and on the whole he is of opinion, that the invention must be of great advantage to the linen manufacture.

The Rev. Mr. Stack who was also present at this examination, declared that he was exactly of the same opinion with Dr. Young as to the construction and utility of this loom:

And your Committee came to the following Resolutions:

Resolved, that it appears to this committee, that the petitioners have invented a loom applicable to the weaving of cotton and linen, by which two webs can be wove at the same time by one weaver, with more expedition, ease, and perfection, than one web is now wove in the common loom.

Resolved, that it appears to this committee, that this loom is simple in its construction, easily kept in order, and will not cost double the price of a common loom.

Resolved, that it appears to this committee, that this invention, when made public, must be highly advantageous to the linen and cotton manufactures of this kingdom.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

AN Institution, entitled the Mechanics' Association, has existed for many years back in all the principal manufacturing towns in Scotland.

1. A voluntary subscription of any sum the subscribers may think proper, is funded.

2. A commissioner is appointed to purchase groceries, and sundry other articles for the use of the association, and to sell them at first cost, for which trouble, he is to have a competency, say 5 per cent.

3. The profits arising from the sales at market price to others, non-subscribers, are to be added to the fund for the use of the association.

Perhaps the above institution, deserves to be warmly recommended to mechanics in all the principal manufacturing towns in Ireland. If carried into effect,

it evidently would guard against the baneful effects of monopoly. The poor mechanic, who might occasionally want cash, would be taken less advantage of; and that infernal business of *pawn broking*, would likely commit less ravages on the lower orders of the people.

The foregoing plan was sometime ago forwarded anonymously to a person in Lisburn. The scheme appears to be useful, but it requires further explanation. If the writer, or any other person, conversant with the practices of Scotland, would give a more full account, it would be acceptable. Information is particularly solicited, whether selling on trust to the members, forms a part of the plan, whether credit is given generally to their members, or only to the amount of the individual's subscription.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BARONY OF UPPER FEWS, COUNTY OF ARMAGH.

THE barony of Upper Fews, is the most southern barony in the county of Armagh; in it are comprehended the parish of Newtownhamilton, and part of the parishes of Armagh and Cregan, the remainder of the latter (called the five towns) being in the county of Louth. It is bounded on the east, by the barony of Upper Orier, on the west, by the barony of Turenny, and the river which divides the counties of Armagh and Monaghan; on the north, by the baronies of Armagh and Lower Fews, and on the south, by the county of Louth, and is about 13 miles long from north to south, the breadth is irregular, and is in general from 4 to 6 miles.

Towards the northern and southern extremity of this barony the face of the country is in general uneven, ascending and descending into gentle hills and dales; these hills grow more elevated as they approach the centre, where a chain of high, rude, and uncultivated hills or mountains, mostly covered with heath and coarse grass, crosses the same, near Newtownhamilton; these begin in the county of Monaghan, and after they cross

the barony in an eastern direction into upper Orier, gradually grow more rocky and uncultivated (some spots at their bottoms excepted) and branch out into mountains of different magnitudes, the principal branch of which continues on to Slieu Gulen, the principal hiding place of the noted tory Redmond O'Hanlon, and from thence to the Newry and Carlingford mountains; these continue, with the exception of the lough of Carlingford, intervening, to the Rostrevor and Killowan mountains, and terminate after forming a vast amphitheatre, when viewed from the south, at Slieu Donard* the most eastern, and highest of all the Mourne Mountains.

All these high hills or mountains both in this barony, and in the county of Monaghan, which were heretofore kept under stock, have been with few exceptions let within these few years back to tenants (part of them adventurers from the county of Down) who have built a great number of cabins on them; and though few of them have sufficient capital to make rapid improvements, yet nevertheless, in process of time, it is expected the face of these mountains will assume a new aspect, and the climate of the same be greatly improved, when there are proper ditches and drains made on them to carry off the spring and stagnant water, both of which are hostile to vegetation, and render the climate humid; indeed the most of these are capable of improvement, the substrata being of clay, which, when mixed with the moory strata on the top and limed, will make middling land.†

* I think your Correspondent from Balinabinch, ought to have termed his "Tour to Mourne, a tour to Slieu Donard: as there are few countries I have yet travelled in, affords more subjects for the pen of a geographical or sentimental tourist (such as that of S.E.) than the half barony of Mourne, no part of which, with the exception of Slieu Donard, S.E. his tour entered, consequently does not describe.

† For an account of the mode of improving the different kinds of soils in this barony, see vol. 3, of this Magazine, page 178.